

William C. Collins, Mayor

*Council Members:*

Terry Jenkins, Mayor Pro Tem

Walter Bailey

Aaron Brown

Kima Garten-Schmidt

Bob Jackson

William McIntosh



*Clerk-Treasurer*

Lisa L. Wallace

*Town Attorney*  
G. Waring Parker

## **Town of Summerville**

### **COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

### **DECEMBER 9, 2015**

#### **ATTENDANCE**

Present: Mayor Bill Collins and Council members Walter Bailey, Aaron Brown, Kima Garten-Schmidt, Bob Jackson, Terry Jenkins and Bill McIntosh. Also present were Lisa Wallace, Director of Administrative Services & Clerk-Treasurer, and G.W. Parker, Town Attorney. Members of the press and the public were duly notified of the meeting and were also present.

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

The regular monthly meeting of Summerville Town Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 9, 2015. Mayor Collins opened the meeting with a statement for his final meeting as Mayor. Councilman Jenkins also made a statement for his final meeting as town councilmember. Mayor Collins then asked Ms. Garten-Schmidt to provide the invocation which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **PRESENTATION OF EMPLOYEE LENGTH OF SERVICE AWARDS**

Human Resource Manager, Cynthia Brown, announced that there were 25 recipients of the employee length of service awards this year. She called each member forward and Mayor Collins presented them with their length of service awards (list attached).

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Nicholas Hayes of 319 Dupont Way asked council to consider a resolution entitled, Dump Trump. Robert Pratt of 423 Sumter Avenue thanked council for the Summerville Vision Plan and spoke in support of the proposed hotel/convention center and the proposed Bear Island Road project. Joyce Delk of 208 Essex Drive asked council to wait until January before any new boards or committees are appointed or a new organizational chart adopted. Eugene Lemeau of 233 Garden Grove Drive asked council to postpone the appointments of the citizens boards and commissions and the standing committees of council. Peter Gorman of S. Magnolia Street stated that residents have come out to defend democracy and asked residents in support to stand. He added that council is exploiting a code error by making appointments to the citizens boards and council committees before the new Mayor is sworn-in and asked that this council extend the same courtesy that was given to Mayor Collins when he took office. Ethel Campbell, representing the Community Resource Center located at 116 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> North St. thanked council for the grant that enables them hold a Kwanza festival in Summerville on December 26 to January 1 and extended an invitation to all the residents of Summerville.

Kathy Kcuick of 127 Avonshire asked council to reconsider the Bear Island Road extension through the Weatherstone subdivision and consider an alternate route adding that the Weatherstone residents were not aware of this proposed road when they purchased their homes. Zandrina Riley of 102 Daisy Circle spoke about her concerns with the recycling changes and asked why these changes were made. Carolyn Gorman of 313 S. Magnolia stated that the town has quadrupled its debt over the next 20 years primarily due to two recent bond issues for the hotel project and proposed new road project. She reported that the hotel project is still in litigation and that they will be looking into whether the contract with Berkeley County can bind a future council. Franklin Smith of 521 Central Avenue said in the spirit of the birth of his Savior, he wanted to remind people of the teachings in the bible and quoted some scripture. He also commended Council for listening to the citizens and postponing the decision on the responsibilities of the Mayor. Adrian Kwist of 109 Reynolds Road stated that he finds all of the negative political news about this council very disturbing. He said that the citizens do not want division and this appears to be retaliation because of the recent election. Charlie Stoudenmire of 309 W. Carolina Avenue said that he is proud of the current election officials and previous elected officials and asked that the newly elected officials be given an opportunity to be successful also. Mike Murpree of W. 2<sup>nd</sup> South Street reported on traffic statistics in the local area adding that Sheep Island Road is a good start and thanked council for their participation in this process. Robbie Robbins thanked council for their vision and leadership and thanked particularly Mayor Bill Collins for advancing the ball on the Berlin G. Myers Parkway. Thadius Kcuick of 127 Avonshire stated that he is representing over 800 residents of Summerville who are against the Bear Island Road extension. He stated that safety would be compromised and it would degrade the lifestyle of the residents of Weatherstone. William Harbeson of 403 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> South Street agreed that there are traffic issues but the proposed road does not need to go through Weatherstone. Frank Freeman of 108 King Charles Circle stated that council may want to consider having their meetings on a different night of the week so they could attend bible study. He stated that the public comments portion of the meeting seems to be something that has to be endured until the real business of the meeting. He read the oath of office and reminded council of their responsibility to the public. Fran Harbeson 403 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> South Street stated that she is concerned about the recycling issue and is bothered that WastePro has been taking items that she thought she was recycling to the landfill without her knowledge. She was also concerned that the town voted to extend the contract with WastePro. Homer Gonzales spoke about stormwater ponds and retention in the Weatherstone subdivision and said that the proposed road is going to destroy their neighborhood and wetlands. There being no further public comments, the Mayor declared that portion of the meeting closed.

#### **PUBLIC HEARING: 2015 BUDGET AMENDMENT**

Mr. Jackson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jenkins, to open the public hearing on the proposed 2015 budget amendment. Finance Director, Belinda Harper, outlined the proposed changes for the 2015 budget and asked if there were any questions. There being no further questions, the public hearing was closed on motion of Mr. Bailey, seconded by Mr. Jenkins.

#### **PUBLIC HEARING: 2016 BUDGET**

Mr. Brown made a motion, seconded by Ms. Garten-Schmidt, to open the public hearing on the proposed 2016 budget. Finance Director, Belinda Harper, provided an overview of the budget including the new capital items and personnel planned for 2016. An audience member asked about the proposed tennis pro position. Ms. Harper explained that the position is going from a contracted position to a full-time paid position and that funds generated from the tennis program will be used to fund the position. Doyle Best added that the tennis program has been in place since 2011 and the tennis pro is currently paid a percentage of the revenue but will now be paid an annual salary which is approximately 75% of what she is generating. Mr. Gorman spoke about his concerns that the administrative side of the budget has grown while the service side has not. There were also some questions about the proposed annexation coordinator position. Director of Planning and Economic Development Director, Madelyn Robinson, explained that this is a position that council has requested over the last several years and that the town has finally been able to fund in 2016. She added that this person would work closely with areas interested in annexing in to the town. Mr. Jenkins made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bailey, to close the public hearing and the motion carried.

#### **PUBLIC HEARING: APPLICATION FEE FOR SPECIAL EVENTS PERMIT**

Ms. Garten-Schmidt made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jackson, to open the public hearing on the proposed application fee for special events permits. Special Events Coordinator and Public Information Officer, Tiffany Norton, gave a brief explanation of the fee explaining that it is consistent with neighboring municipalities. Mayor Collins called for any questions. There being none, the public hearing was closed on motion of Mr. Brown, seconded by Mr. Jenkins.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

Mr. McIntosh made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jackson, to approve the minutes of the November 11, 2015 council meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **APPROVAL OF COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mr. McIntosh made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jenkins, to approve the November 9, 2015 Finance Committee report as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **PETITIONS**

There were no petitions for annexation.

#### **PENDING BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS**

Mr. McIntosh made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jackson, to have second and final reading of an ordinance to rezone TMS # 137-07-02-005 located at 309 W. Richardson Avenue from R2, "Single Family Residential" to R1, "Single Family Residential". The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. McIntosh made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bailey, to have second and final reading of an ordinance to adopt a capital improvements plan for the Town of Summerville. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Brown made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jackson, to have second and final reading of an ordinance to adopt a revised development impact fee ordinance for the Town of Summerville. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Jackson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bailey, to have second and final reading of an ordinance authorizing a quit-claim deed for unimproved right-of-way on West Third South Street. Mr. Jenkins recused himself citing a conflict of interest. The motion carried unanimously with Mr. Jenkins abstaining.

Mr. McIntosh made a motion, seconded by Mr. Brown, to have second and final reading of an ordinance to approve the FY 2015 budget amendment. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Jenkins made a motion, seconded by Ms. Garten-Schmidt, to have second and final reading of an ordinance to approve the FY 2016 budget. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Bailey made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jackson, to have second and final reading of an ordinance revising the special event permit application and associated fee schedule. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **INTRODUCTION OF NEW BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS**

Mr. Jackson made a motion, seconded by Ms. Garten-Schmidt, to approve a Resolution adopting the 2015 Dorchester County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Bailey made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jenkins, to approve a Resolution adopting a revised organizational chart. Mr. Jenkins, Mr. Bailey, Ms. Garten-Schmidt, Mr. Jackson, Mr. McIntosh and Mayor Collins approved the motion. Mr. Brown opposed the motion stating he did not want to make any organizational changes until the new Mayor is seated. The motion carried.

Mr. Bailey made a motion, seconded by Mr. Jenkins, to confirm the Mayor's nominations to the citizens' boards and commissions (list attached). Mr. Jackson made a motion to amend the motion and moved to approve the reappointments only and not move forward with the new appointment until the new Mayor is seated. Mr. Brown seconded that motion. Mr. Jackson and Mr. Brown voted in favor of the motion and Mr. Jenkins, Mr. Bailey, Ms. Garten-Schmidt, Mr. McIntosh and Mayor Collins voted against the motion and the motion failed. Mayor Collins then called for a vote on the original motion to confirm the Mayor's nominations as presented. Mr. Jenkins, Mr. Bailey, Ms. Garten-Schmidt, Mr. Jackson, Mr. McIntosh, and Mayor Collins voted in favor of the motion. Mr. Brown opposed reiterating that these appointments should not be made until the new Mayor is seated. The motion carried.

Mayor Collins announced that regarding his appointment of the standing committees of council, he is leaving them exactly as they have been with the exception of replacing

Terry Jenkins with Ms. Czarnik on the Public Works and Public Safety Committees; however Ms. Garten-Schmidt will serve as Chairman of the Public Works Committee due to her seniority on Council. The newly appointed standing committees are as follows. Public Safety Committee: Walter Bailey, Chairman with Aaron Brown and Christine Czarnik; Public Works Committee: Kima Garten-Schmidt, Chairman with Bill McIntosh and Christine Czarnik; Planning and Development Committee: Bill McIntosh, Chairman with Walter Bailey and Bob Jackson; Parks and Recreation Committee: Bob Jackson, Chairman with Aaron Brown and Kima Garten-Schmidt

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Lisa Wallace, Director of Administrative Services  
Clerk and Treasurer

APPROVED:

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William Wiley Johnson, Mayor